

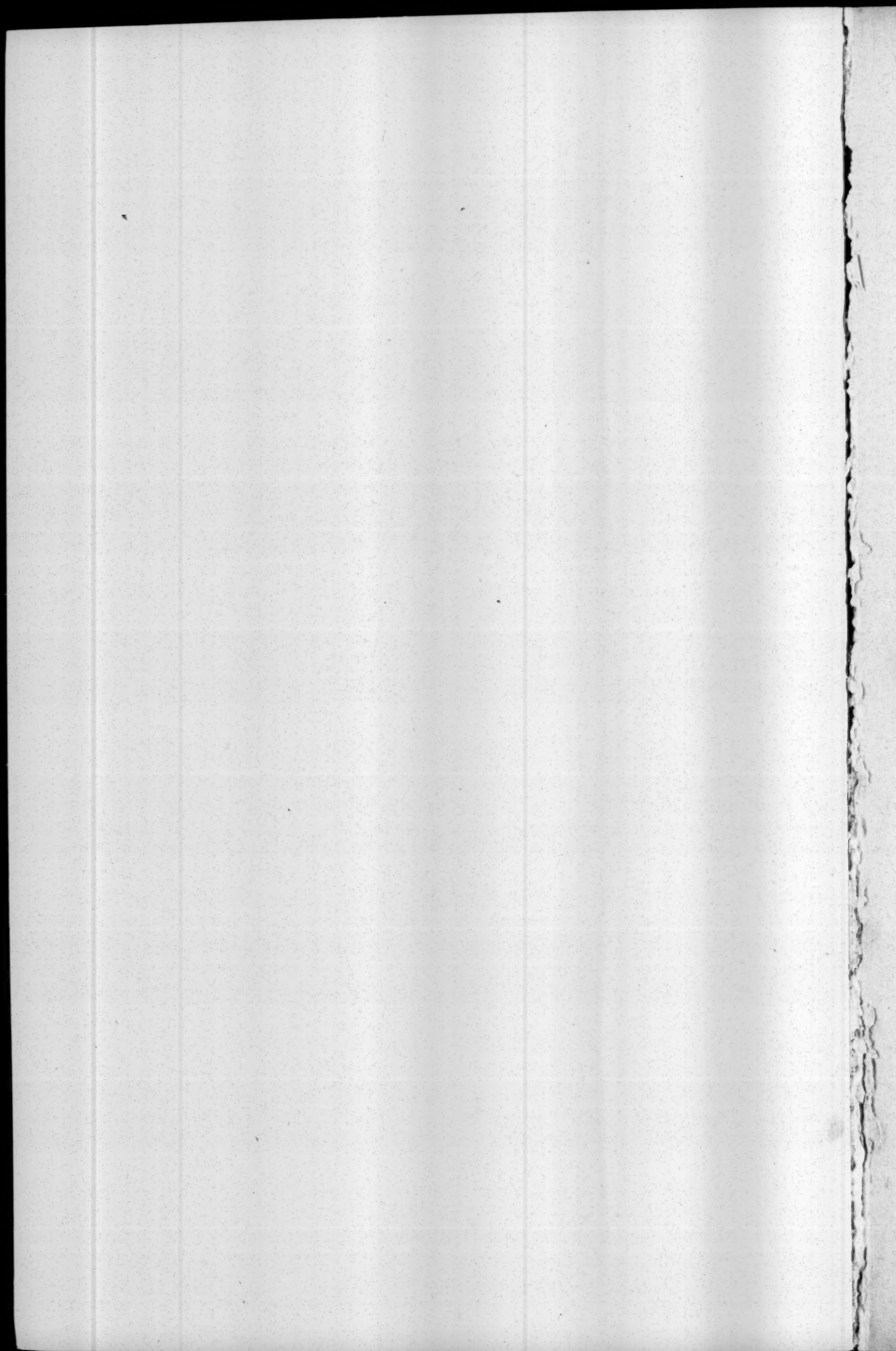
Temple Artisan

1905. (11)

DATE

THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE

HALCYON, CALIFORNIA





The Temple Artisan

JANUARY, 1905

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THE TEMPLE.



PRIMARILY, The Temple is a cosmic organic center, the constituent parts of which are the units of collective humanity.

Coincident with the original impulse, the first emanation from the Central Spiritual Sun,—the Universal Heart,—came into manifestation, the Father-Mother-Son, the triangular corner stone of The Temple, upon which is rising, age by age, a geometrically perfect edifice. The cap stones to the pillars of the porch, and the outer walls are now being laid, preliminary to the work of the roof-builders—the humanity of the sixth great root-race.

The place of each stone is determined by the law of selection, and the same law determines the different Degrees and Orders which lead to and from the great Stone of Sacrifice which rests upon the pavement of the Central Square.

The development of outer conditions, planes and personalities must keep pace with and correspond to the development of the interior man, or evolutionary force would be diverted from its proper channels.

When the Craftsman or Apprentice to any Degree has finished his term of service, and has mastered all the details of the work, he is “recognized” by the Master Builder, and raised to a higher Degree, although he may never be conscious of the presence of that Master, until his apprenticeship is completed, and he in turn becomes a Master of a lower Degree.

The Organization of The Temple, the members of which belong by evolutionary right to a certain Degree of Cosmic Life, which Degree is subdivided into seven Orders, is the continuation and expansion of the work of the Masters revived in this country a quarter of a century ago by certain chelas or disciples.

To the efforts of the Masters is due the impulse which has caused the great advance in scientific, philosophical and social endeavor; for they are the guardians of Ancient Wisdom and Knowledge, in which lies the root of all progress; and the work of The Temple is to cultivate and embody the highest principles of all such endeavor in one stupendous living organic whole.

It is a common belief that the fires on the altars of the Ancient Temples have been permitted to die out: but “those who know” say this is not true; that they are but hidden from the view of the masses, awaiting the time when the veil of ignorance and corruption hanging before the hearts of the humanity of this transitory period, shall be rent asunder, and the light of the ages become manifest to all. The time is comparatively close at hand when the doors of “The Temple of the Mysteries” shall once more swing outward. The Site of that once wonderful structure has been rediscovered, and when the Lord, the Savior, the Elder Brother of the human race once more reappears to claim his own, He will find a place prepared for him by those who, having heard this call, “Come over and help us,” have faithfully responded, and have taken up their share of the burden of responsibility. Are you of that number?

Address The Temple, Oceano, California.

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Vol. V.

JANUARY, 1905

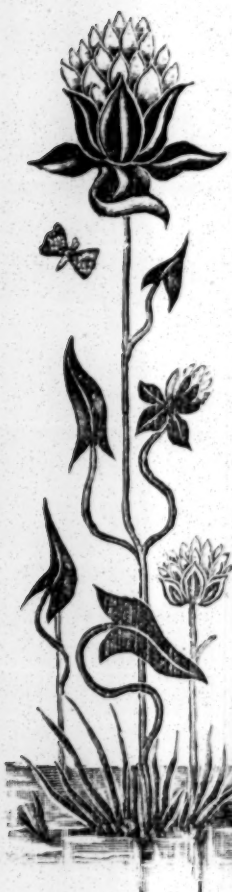
No. 8

Behold, I give



unto thee a key.

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS.



Can ye see the faint flush of the day-break, ye Children of Light? It hangeth low in the cosmic darkness as yet, but eyes not holden may catch a gleam of its brightness, ears not dulled hear the clarion note in the distance. The Day Star is rising, rising, rising, and though sky and earth seem drenched with blood-red reflections—the first emanations of darkness, the golden light cometh to redeem, to sanctify, to bless the hard-pressed children of Maya.

Lift up your heads, strengthen your weakened knees, bind closer the burdens ye bear, turn your eyes to the East, and watch, wait and work.



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TO OUR COMRADES.

How few among the countless numbers of human beings in the world ever take into consideration the working of the law of periodicity in personal or national affairs. Yet, even the limited knowledge we already possess, furnishes innumerable clues to enlighten us as to all the future holds for us, either as individuals or races, as well as data for all the great events in our long line of incarnations.

Every day, every moment, opens or closes some important cycle in the lives of all who belong to any one of the seven evolutionary rays. Truly "history repeats itself," and the apparently trivial happenings of to-day, for instance, will give to those whose inner eye is opened, an indication of what has occurred or may occur in the future.

We may divide the more important cycles of our mundane existence into periods of one, three, five and seven years; for, in all of these different periods, there is, so to speak, a summing up of all that has gone before or is to come. The arbitrary law of Karma decrees such action, and the Masters, the agents of Karma, carry out such decrees.

A consideration of this subject is peculiarly applicable at just this time, for all the members of The Temple will be interested in the following quotation from one of the Master's secret instructions, given in the month of September, 1904: "You are entering upon the seventh year of your novitiate in the Temple, and I say to you that the Temple tree will be shaken to its foundation during that year; many leaves will fall to the ground only to furnish nutriment to the soil beneath, but those leaves which remain firmly fixed to the tree, drawing their daily sustenance from the sap of that tree, will be fitted for our use when the seventh year has passed."

As has always been the case in the past, the Master's words are again being fulfilled. When the subject of testing or trial by the Lodge is brought to our notice, we jump to the conclusion that some great trial of strength is coming to us, perhaps accompanied with fire-works and crowds of spectators, and for which we think we have been in training for years, the result of which is to cover us with great glory or else with almost utter failure. We do not realize that our every thought, word and deed has been under constant surveillance, and that it is the sum total of all these thoughts, words and deeds, which determines success or failure for any given period.

One after another of a large number of our comrades, who have been drawn to the central flame of the Temple work, have gone down and out when the Lodge light was turned upon them, because they

did not or could not recognize the truth and verity of the statements given above; because they could not realize that it was a test of faithfulness in "little" things that the Lodge was demanding first of all. The greater trials of which we have heard and read, could never, in justice, be put upon us, until we have proven our power of endurance, of faithfulness, of brotherly love.

With all my soul in the plea I make, I wish to impress upon my comrades the importance of this closing year of the Seven Year Cycle of the Temple work. "Watch, wait and work." Be careful that no man, no devil, snatch from you any crown of victory you may have won during your novitiate in The Temple.

B. S.

THE POWER OF THOUGHT.

TEMPLE TEACHINGS, OPEN SERIES, NO. XXXVII.

The tongue is truly a small member, but the amount of suffering brought upon the human race through its agency is prodigious. The effects of such action are evident to all as far as the physical plane is concerned; but the fundamental causes, the *modus operandi* of the generation and distribution of the electro-magnetic forces, which are primarily responsible for the good as well as the evil action of that small member, are unknown or unobserved by the masses of mankind. There is much less excuse for students of the Secret Sciences who use such forces to injure their fellow creatures, than for those who have not been taught the power and potency of the invisible elemental lives which comprise those varied forms of manifested life. But, at the same time, the advantages secured by the right use of the same forms of life are correspondingly great. Some of your number will hastily repudiate or deny the truth of the assertion I am about to make, but it is nevertheless perfectly true, and serious thought will bring some realization of its truth to the deeper student. Very much of the present physical suffering, loss of position and means, separation of friends and members of families, is primarily due to the wilful falsehood, uncharitable and treacherous actions of a few people in your own ranks. Your inability to accept this statement lies largely in the difficulty you experience in consciously recognizing your unity, your existence as one single entity on one plane of life. I have said before, and now repeat,—no individual can be drawn into The Temple or any other organic body, who does not belong to that body by karmic right and long association in past lives. Your mere signature to a pledge or withdrawal from an organization has no effect on the facts of the

case. These are questions of duty done or undone, of responsibilities assumed or ignored. The bonds that formerly united you, the fires that welded you into that one body, were made and built many thousand years ago; and, in order to comprehend the action of such forces, it is essential that you recognize and accept the fact of your unity, first in one special degree of the great Lodge, and finally in humanity as a whole. The currents of thought that are constantly flowing between you, cementing and intensifying the strength of your unity, are indissolubly binding you to each other, to the Lodge, to myself. You cannot tell a wilful falsehood, perform a mean or ungenerous action against another Temple member, without hurting in some degree, every other member of the Temple, any more than you can stab one finger of your hand without hurting your whole hand and body; for the nerves which conduct that physical pain to every part of your hand, correspond exactly to the currents of force set up between you by the living mental or thought energy you have generated and sent through or within those currents. Take, for instance, a malicious lie uttered by one against another. First, consider the evil generated by the hatred which preceded the spoken words,—a force so potent and deadly, corrosive and fiery, that, when directed by a powerful will, it can kill instantaneously. Then consider the power in sound and form, as evidenced in every letter of the alphabet which goes to form the words of that lie. Then the power of number generated by the combination of those letters. Here you have the material to work with, the path or method of its working, and the organism on which it works. The currents of thought continually in action between you, keep open and strengthen the paths, so that good or evil thought, speech or action, travel almost instantaneously from one to the other, until every individual is more or less saturated with the living energy set free. If the lie be repeated, the force is intensified, additional power supplied, and the effects are manifested more pronouncedly. The higher your karmic position in such an organic structure as I have mentioned, the more surely and swiftly will the effects of your good or evil thoughts, words and actions be felt by all the other fragments of yourselves, and the more will you suffer from the same forces set free by others, because you are in those so-called higher or more interior positions of the Lodge, for the reason that you have become more sensitive to the action of the life forces of interior planes of manifestation, and the more sensitive you become, the more acutely can you perceive the action of the "pairs of opposites," until finally the strings of your harp of life

have vibrated so long and intensely, they sound no longer as separate strings, but as one note or chord. Then those vibrations have transferred your consciousness on to another plane of existence, commonly known as the plane of Soul. The physical body is then disintegrated in the majority of instances. The power of mastery pre-supposes the ability of the individual to stand these higher or finer vibrations, and keep at the same time a physical body in manifestation.



THE PHYSIOLOGICAL CELL, OCCULTLY CONSIDERED.

III.

In our last essay, we considered the various methods of cell reproduction. We will now consider their composition.

Analytical chemistry has demonstrated some fourteen and more elements in the human body, combinations of which form the basis of cell structure, and which are known as proximate principles. The proximate principles of the body are:—Water, gelatin-fat, albumen, fibrin, phosphate of lime, phosphate of magnesia, phosphate of soda, phosphate of potassa, carbonate of lime, chloride of lime, chloride of soda and chloride of potassa, sulphate of soda, sulphate of potassa, fluoride of lime, silica and others. These are elaborated from the food we eat, aided by the air we breathe, and the water we drink; as, without air and water, nothing could result. This work of elaboration is carried on by the process of digestion, respiration and distribution, in such a manner that each individual cell can draw its supply from its immediate neighborhood. As long as harmony rules in the body, all cells receive their supplies without stint or failure. If, however, inharmonious conditions affect the body, then the balance is disturbed, and inharmony or disease results.

This brings us at once to the study of the nutrition of the cells. To facilitate this study, let us recall to our minds the diagram on page 187, of THE ARTISAN, for May, 1904, and imagine the cell imbedded in a lymph-like substance, which contains the terminals of the blood vessels and nerves, the lymph ducts, and certain currents created through cell action by a sort of in-breathing and out-breathing, a process known as endosmosis and exosmosis (the passage of gases, vapors and liquids through membranous or porous media from within outward and from without inward), while its contents are nourished, preserved and purified, and suitably changed by another process known to science as tissue change or metabolic action. In

this manner, the consciousness of the cell selects from its bed what it needs to maintain its normal composition, which is always the same in a healthy cell, so much of each and no more. A bone cell requires just so much carbonate and phosphate of lime, and so much gelatin, to perform its duty in the bone it helps to form. If the balance is disturbed, the bone will be either too fragile, as in persons of advanced years, or too soft and yielding to pressure, as is seen in poorly fed children, etc.

And so, we will find that the cells are organized into an orderly system, akin to social conditions, and that all organized life consists and is built of cells, be it plant, animal or man. "From the primitive speck of protoplasm, and the nucleated cell in which all life originates and is developed through stages undistinguishable from those of fish, reptile and mammal, until the cell finally attains the highly specialized development of the quadrumanous, and, last of all, of the human type." Secret Doctrine, page 266, Vol. II.

And hear what Prof. Bunge, of Basel, says:—"Each of those infinitely microscopic cells, which compose our complex organisms, is a miraculous building, or microcosm—a world in itself."

B——, (M. D).

STUDIES IN MYTHOLOGY.

I.

Mythology is said to be the science which examines cosmogeny, gods and heroes. The term also applies to the legends of the gods and heroes. Attempts to explain these legends so as to bring them to the comprehension of man, has been the work of many writers, both ancient and modern. Many modern writers regard them as relics of heathen superstition and ignorance, wherein the ancients endeavored to account for the operations of nature. In reality it is probable that they were invented by wise and deep students to preserve allegorically the knowledge gained of cosmic and universal operations and terrestrial nature.

The esoteric student will soon perceive that mythology was to the ancient Greek and Roman, what the Kabalah was to the ancient Chaldean and Hebrew, the Secret Doctrine to the Initiated Hindu or Buddhist, and the Book of the Dead to the Ancient Egyptian. It concealed, for the use of future generations, the secret teachings of their wise men. It is based on the idea that Cosmos is a conscious, living entity, omnipresent, containing within itself abstract and absolute power and knowledge. All space, all substance, boundless and inconceivable, is its body. Just as millions of living cells go to

make up the body of man, drawing their life and power from the one life which is the centre of his being, so man and all that exist are part of the body of Cosmos. Science has predicated that in the space of one minute's time, millions of atomic lives in our bodies come into active existence, while, at the same time, as many are thrown off as refuse matter, the central consciousness apparently taking no notice of these changes. So it is in the body of Cosmos, among its atoms, planets, and suns; among the beings and creatures that dwell in all its worlds, all are constantly changing, passing from activity to decay and death, being thrown off as refuse matter, to be again reconverted into new products. So rapid has been this change in the body of man, that it has been estimated that our bodies are completely renewed in seven years; indeed, some claim in a few months or even days. The cycle of cosmic change was named by the ancient sages "The Great Life Cycle." This sets forth that there have been many manifested universes within the Cosmos preceding this one in which we live, which have followed in the wake of each other as one wave of the ocean follows another. Connecting all these universes, passing through each as the central cord passes through a string of beads, supporting and imparting life to each, is the One Life which the Kabalists term Existence.

Let us inquire into this One Life, this Kabalistic Existence. There is an innate consciousness in man which says: "I AM," and is equivalent to saying, "I EXIST." But the man of flesh is alive and vigorous one day, and the next is a lifeless form; something has left it, and we call it dead, and it soon crumbles to dust. That subtle thing that has left the body was evidently its life-giver, that which bestows on man the consciousness of existence. That which is subject to decay and change cannot be this One Life. Existence must be THAT having no limitation, having no beginning nor end; unperishable; of itself and by itself; unconditioned and without antecedent cause; self-conscious. When we have found THAT, it seems evident we shall have found Existence. Space and duration must be without beginning or end, imperishable and eternal, and must hold within their folds THAT for which we search. Substance, the numenon of matter, also is endowed with these qualifications, and may be considered as one facet of Existence; yet, back of substance, there is something which is continually compelling it to change, taking on the multitudinous forms through which it manifests itself to us. This guiding factor seems to be Consciousness. It may, therefore, be considered the centre of the structure which we will call the Omniverse, while substance, space

and duration form its periphery. Herbert Spencer has expressed the opinion that the "First Cause," the "Eternal," and the "Unknowable," may be essentially the same as the consciousness which wells up within us; in short, that the impersonal reality pervading Cosmos is the pure numenon of thought.

Consciousness, then, the centre of the Omniverse, may be considered as the Supreme Being, the Great I AM, Existence. This idea is shown in the Hebrew Kabalah, wherein the highest Deity is EHEIEH, the name announced to Moses when he turned to behold the burning bush. EHEIEH is described in the Kabalah as the Vast Countenance, Macroprosopus, in contra-distinction to Man, (IHVH, Jehovah,—male-female man,) the Lesser Countenance. He (EHEIEH) is the first Sephira and the Ancient of Days; the (God)-Head, and, therefore, the Father. Jehovah (man) is the Son. No one knoweth the Father except through the Son, in whom he is revealed.

(To be continued.)

J. H. SCOTFORD.

THE MYSTERY.

BY MARGARET STEELE ANDERSON.

This is your cup—the cup assigned to you
From the beginning. Nay, my child, I know
How much of that dark drink is your own brew
Of fault and passion. Ages long ago—
In the deep years of yesterday,—I knew.

This is your road—a painful road and drear.
I made the stones—that never give you rest;
I set your friend in pleasant ways and clear,
And he shall come, like you, unto my breast;
But you—my weary child!—must travel here.

This is your task. It has no joy nor grace,
But is not meant for any other hand,
And in my universe hath measured place.
Take it; I do not bid you understand:
I bid you close your eyes—to see my face.

McClure's Magazine, April, 1903.

The Temple Artisan

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EDITORIAL MIRROR.

"Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle. But you shall be a miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself, at the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God."—*Phillip Brooks.*

✱

We battle not against men, but against powers and principalities of evil. That deific centre called God is the origin of all power. It *is* power, strength, love, in essence. God does not *possess* power, strength or love. He *is* that power and love. In proportion as the material self—the personal life—is lost, becomes transmuted into the qualities and principles of the impersonal self, so do we grow into God—*become* a sun of light or a particular ray of force. To *have* power is one thing. To *be* power is another thing. The former is outside of the real self and simply denotes the ability to use forces. Thus we use God in minor ways to help on our evolution, and he uses us in building his Universal Temple. That deific essence or power we call God is in all things, and He offers himself as a continual sacrifice for use without respect to persons or conditions. If His substance is used for evil, reaction and disaster follow. His force may be diverted, squandered, but the drawing power of the Infinite will bring it back to the centre some time, thus conserving perpetually the integrity of the Cosmos.

✱

As matter is but crystallized spirit; as physical man is a congeries of elemental forces having correspondences on higher planes in terms of spiritual forces; as gold is materialized pranic or life force; iron, materialized kamic or lower desire force; silver, but crystallized psychic force, so are all the forces which we daily observe, but lower reflections or correspondences of good—God—forces, manifesting on a lower plane.

Intellectual force is but spiritual power materialized. There are many men who have great intellectual powers but no spiritual force.

They have drawn their spiritual power down to the material plane. In some life they must have attained by effort and sacrifice much spiritual power which they have now drawn down to lower levels. In other words, after climbing up hill, they turn about and slide down.

It is the spiritual fire that alone generates the intellectual power of mental steam. The intellectual force will be gradually dissipated after connection is broken with the spiritual fires. There may be enough steam left in the engine to run it a mile or so after the fires have died out. There may be enough intellectual and lower will force left to run the personal mind brilliantly for an incarnation or two, but unless correlation can be made with the higher fires, the intellectual forces must wane, grow dim, and the man in time becomes merely an animal, losing finally all human instincts and eventually landing in idiocy, going lower and lower, age upon age, in the scale of being, until the congeries of forces built up by ages of effort and evolution run out in the lowest swarming forms of organic existence, breaking up ultimately into the metallic elementals of inorganic consciousness.

W. H. D.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Temple Builders—Lesson 15.

A MUSIC LESSON.

This is a music lesson? A queer kind of music lesson, you think, but you will soon learn there is more music than you ever dreamed of, and different music than that which most of us have studied.

We have learned in our previous lessons that "Love is the fulfilling of the Law." We have learned that to love we must unite with the Whole and live for others, and if we do this, greater love will follow. There is another name we can use for Love. We may all have heard it. It is Harmony.

Some of you may be studying music and may have learned of harmony in music. The words Love, Harmony and Music are much alike in meaning, so that when we love we are making beautiful music; not as one who plays the violin or piano, but by kind words and cheerful smiles or helpful deeds, we are producing harmonies greater perhaps than any song your ears have ever heard. Indeed, if we lived strongly enough, worked as hard to attain true love as the musician does to master a difficult composition, we

would hear with our inner ears the music that is made by loving, music so beautiful that we cannot imagine it to-day.

Music is an important study, because it tells of the laws of harmony. The universe was created through laws of harmony, and it is Harmony that holds it together now. It is Harmony that makes the solar system what it is. If you do not know about the solar system, ask some one to explain it to you.

The lesson called Introduction tells us that all life is motion or vibration. That is the reason why a knowledge of music, which is a study of vibration, makes us better acquainted with all other life which is vibration also.

Before we go any further, however, we must clearly understand what we mean by vibration. When a key of the piano is played, a string is made to vibrate and a sound is heard. If the string vibrates slowly, the tone will be deep and low; if it vibrates quickly, the tone will be fine and high. Each tone has a certain position, high, low, medium, etc. A bell may have a low, deep tone; a whistle, a high, shrill tone.

When you twirl a nail into the air with force, you have a whizzing sound. This sound comes from the rapid vibration of the air caused by the quick movement of the nail.

When a thought comes to our mind, it affects every atom in our bodies, and fills them with a force that makes them act for good or evil. It may make us tingle in every nerve, and if our ear were sharp and we would listen carefully enough, we might hear the sound passing through those wires. So everything that *is*, vibrates in its own manner according to the cause that starts it.

When spirit, that which is within you, that gives you life, began to vibrate, different sounds were made.

Let us say again,—“All life is motion or vibration.”

When you study Natural Philosophy, you will learn that every particle in existence, even those in a solid rock, are continually vibrating. It is easy to believe that this is true of water and easier still to see it in air or smoke. It is the same in the rock, only the vibrations are slower, and we do not see them. Since our attention has been called to the law of vibration, we will be surprised to find how few things even seem to be quiet, and how many things are in motion.

Keep these thoughts in mind, and see how many new lessons can be learned.

NOTE.—The music lessons are different from the others, and may take much thought before they can be understood thoroughly. It will be well to

listen to the Silent Voice of Intuition. All of the lessons should be studied with the help of Intuition. After studying them carefully, they should be kept in mind as we would a letter from a friend, until they gradually become a part of our lives, and lay open their truths to us as a friend becomes a part of our life, and we can understand him better the more we are with him.

Special.—In accordance with the truth expressed in the lesson for the Temple Builders in the December ARTISAN, a plan has been started at this center for the purpose of giving the Builders an opportunity of sowing "The Christ Seed" among us, both in a spiritual and material way.

Certain portions of the Sanatorium grounds have been placed in the hands of the Builders, selections of the best pansy and aster seeds that could be procured have been planted; also seeds suitable for borders.

The Builders, by this undertaking, are helping to beautify the grounds with choice flowers, and are sowing seeds of innocence and truth that will be transplanted into wider fields than they can now estimate.

The seeds of the valuable varieties will be gathered and sold to Builders, members or others.

Contributions in money for the enlargement of this work will be appreciated. It is best not to send any seeds unless they are very choice, as it is the plan at present to plant only the finest varieties of the flowers mentioned.

It is greatly desired that this step may bring close centralization for the department and a growing interest and appreciation of the work by both Builders and their friends.

All communications concerning this department should be addressed to W. W. and J. W. Kent, Oceano, Calif.

(To be continued.)

JEHOVAH.

The question, "Who is Jehovah?" is still *sub judice*, as the following communication from Brother Varian indicates:—

DEAR DOCTOR:—

When I saw that article on Jehovah in cold print I was filled with pity for him. It seemed to me that I hit him rather too hard considering his age and limitations, and shall spare him because of his gray hairs in the future

However, Brother Madgwick has left an uneasy feeling in my cerebrum, that can only be relieved by hitting him (the brother) a friendly lick.

When he says "Kronos (Saturn) is deposed by Jupiter," and argues from this premise that Jupiter is Buddha. I cannot follow his argument. In my mind this makes Jupiter, Highest Manas. Lower Manas would be deposed in the end by Higher Manas. However, according to H. P. B., Jupiter is not Higher Manas but

an Auric Force, so I guess the old Greeks made a mistake and got things mixed up, or else our Brother has done so.

I agree with my present enemy and Brother when he says that Saturn "is intellect in time" (is bound by circumstance). It follows that Higher Manas is mind unbounded. Buddha, however, is the love force and a different color.

H. P. B., on page 31 S. D., vol. 2, new edition, says: "The Lord of Wisdom is Mercury or Buddha" The modern commentary explains the words as a reference to the well-known astronomic fact that Mercury receives seven times more light and heat than the Earth, or even the beautiful Venus, which receives but twice the amount falling upon our insignificant globe.

Besides this, the whole theosophical literature of the present time, and Paracelsus' teachings, all take the position that Mercury and Buddha are the same. The different symbols belonging to Mercury are perhaps the most interesting of any set of symbols belonging to a God or planet, and throw some light upon our subject. The planetary sign has a new moon with horns upward, a circle below that, and a cross at the bottom.

Paracelsus calls Mercury "dry water." It is a figure of the moist force in nature; thus we have the Moon symbol. But this, taken in its peculiar position in reference to the circle, produces the symbol of the "First Word." The circle with wings, the Swan of Life, one of the holiest symbols. This great symbol dominates the cross. The cross is made of an upright stroke and a lateral one. The upright stroke symbolizes Spirit, and the lateral stroke symbolizes Mind. They produce imagination, which produces matter. The cross in this instance being under the influence of the First Word, it is not Phalic.

The God Mercury, the Messenger, makes very much the same sign as the planet. The wings upon his helmet and his head making the "First Word" and his body and limbs the cross. His wand is also a wonderful symbol. Here we have a central rod symbolizing Spirit or Prana, and two snakes (intelligent forces) climbing upon it. Snakes are symbols of healing, so Mercury might also be called the Healer. The snakes are alert, looking outward, active, and this symbol is also dominated by the First Word—the circle with wings. It represents one use of the spine in man, its use as a regenerator. So Mercury is a self-conscious active force, the closest to the Father (the First Word). He, the dearest of his Children, is the Messenger (the Servant) that will be exalted above the others.

The other planetary signs, excepting that of Mars, do not give the idea of movement. In Jupiter, the cross has the dominant line in a lateral direction, and it is attached at the western end to the forces above, which come to it as a circle and a line, not a direct emanation. Venus is symbolized by a circle with a cross below. She has the lower part of Mercury's power and a male-female sign. Saturn has his cross in exaltation (action). His forces are at least partly from below it, having two points downward and one point upward. He is most certainly a phallic sign. Mercury symbolizes evolution—the power to be born again, after which time the soul can fly with the wings on its head whither it listeth.

I will be glad to hear from Brother Madgwick or any other member who will enter the lists in his behalf upon this point.

JOHN O. VARIAN.

TEMPLE HOME ASSOCIATION NOTES.

WORK!

BY ERNEST NEAL LYON.

For every suffering of sense,
For sadder mental impotence,
There is a certain recompense
In work.

When Penury would vision kill,
'Mid lassitude of flesh or will,
O keep this slogan ringing still,
To work!

There lurks no conjury of Fate,
No spider-web of human hate,
But thou canst shatter—only wait
And work!

Thine enemies are all within—
Deliverance must there begin—
Arouse thee, Soul, and thou shalt win
By work!

Thy triumph, from its final height,
May cheer some comrade in his fight,
Dispel his shadow—with the light
Of work!

—From Everybody's Magazine.

The Association has recently started a chicken ranch. Bro. Andrew Mecchi, who has rendered efficient service at the centre in various capacities, has been put at the head of this new department. Brother Mecchi has spent some time at Peta Luma studying the approved scientific methods in use on the big ranches at that place. Some good stock consisting of about 150 White Leghorn hens has been bought to start with; also an incubator and brooders. It is planned to increase the number of chickens to about a thousand by the end of the first year, and to eventually create one of the best chicken ranches in this section. A desirable portion of land between hedges of about 10 acres has been set apart for the use of this industry.

An interested member has bought near Arroyo Grande a fruit orchard of 8 acres, and will put the same under control of the Association by rental with the option of buying at any time. This orchard has on it nearly a thousand apple trees in good condition and all bearing fruit. There are also other small fruits, like berries, on the place. These 8 acres border on the Arroyo Grande creek, and valuable water privileges go with the land. The land is irrigated by means of ditches without apparatus of any kind.

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES.

Brother Edgar Conrow and family arrived here early in December, and will reside here permanently, in connection with the work. They are now at the Halcyon Hotel.

* * *

Brother H. G. Guild and family arrived here about the middle of December, and will remain permanently. They are now occupying a residence in Arroyo Grande, near Oceano.

* * *

Our sister, Mrs. Ida J. Wilkins, of Bridgeport, Conn., is here, and will remain some months with us, at the Halcyon Hotel.

* * *

Printed matter for propaganda may be obtained free of charge by application to the Temple Scribe. All members are earnestly requested to co-operate with the Headquarters Staff in circulating such literature among those who are eagerly seeking light on the great problems of the age.

Where only two or three members are residents of one locality, the formation of a class for associated study would be of benefit to all those concerned, and be of great assistance in interesting and drawing others into the group, thereby making possible the formation of a Square.

* * *

THE HELPING HAND is a department of the work, designed to assist in paying for the printing, distribution of literature, and other necessary expenses of the Headquarters, which the present low rate of dues does not begin to cover. This department is in charge of the Temple Treasurer.

* * *

For Temple dues and Helping Hand contributions, make money orders payable to Mrs. J. W. Kent, Treasurer. For membership Certificates and Investment Certificates in the Temple Home Association, and for all payments thereon, make money orders payable to The Temple Home Association.

* * *

It is requested, that in all cases of changes in address, SPECIAL NOTICE (separate)—be promptly sent to the Temple Scribe by letter or postal card.

CHAS. L. HARRIS, Temple Scribe.

The Judas power of the accumulated ages hath its arms about thy neck and is pressing upon thy cheek the kiss that meaneth crucifixion. Awake! thou that sleepest—and the Logos shall shine upon thee!

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HEALTH INSTITUTION

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